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Tour Name: Siem Reap to Phnom Penh Ancient Angkor to Killing Field Guided Tour 4d3n

Tour Code: REP-PNH-4d3n

Tour Duration: 4 days / 3 nights

**Tour Operates:** all year round / on demand **Number of Pax:** available upon request

### Pick-up and drop-off location

Could be anywhere upon request
Hotel in Siem Reap
Upon arrival at Siem Reap airport
Upon arrival at Siem Reap bus station
Upon arrival at boat pier in Chong Kneah floating village
Any AirBnB and residences in Siem Reap
Any residences in Siem Reap.

## Pick-up and drop-off direction

Kindly provide your pick-up and drop-off styles for direction!

## Day I - Angkor Wat, Angkor Thom, Bayon, Ta Prohm, small circuit and Phnom Bakheng Hill sunset or Pre Rup temple sunset

**Angkor Thom city complex** – you will be met and welcomed by our English speaking guide at your pick-up location in Siem Reap and then transfer onward to visit the Great City of Angkor Thom, the last capital of the Great Khmer Empire under the reign of Jayavarman VII. This city is surrounded by an 8m high wall; each side of the city is 3 kilometers long. It draws a perfect square you access this town through 5 gates, 4 of them represent the cardinal points and the 5th one the Victory Gate was the one leading directly to the Royal Palace area.

You will arrive via the South Gate, an impressive stone gate carved with Elephants and 4 giant faces. On each side is a row of 54 gods or demons holding the sacred Naga snake.

After passing through the South Gate, you will go down along this shady road to the Bayon temple. This temple lies exactly in the center of the city. The particularity of this monument is the 54 towers representing the 54 provinces of the then Great Khmer Empire. Each tower has 4 faces. This is the only temple in Cambodia depicting scenes of the everyday life at the time of the empire.

From the Bayon continue by walk to the Baphoun recently re-opened to the public. There you will pass by the Phimeanakas the location of the Royal Palace. The only remaining are a pond and a temple. The palace was made of wood and did not survive the time and the wars.

Then continue to the Terrace of the Elephants. This Terrace was the place where the parade was done for the king. Next is the Terrace of the Leper King, depicting the water world.

**Ta Prohm overgrown temple** – continues transfer to Ta Prohm - one of the most popular temples of the Angkor Complex. This temple was built in the memory of the King Jayavarman VII's mother. When found by the French conservators at the end of the 19th century, they deliberately left this temple in the same condition as it was discovered, overgrown by strangler fig and silk-cotton trees, giving the temple a mystical and romantic appeal.

Your visit will include Banteay Kdei, a Buddhist monastery from the late 12th century, Srah Srang, also known as the "pool of ablutions", the identical twin temples of Tommanon and Chaosay Tevoda, Ta Keo and Krovan temple.



Lunch at local restaurant (at your own costs)

Angkor Wat – continue visit the magnificent temple of Angkor Wat, built by Suryavarman II in early 12th century. Angkor Wat is constructed following the model of the temple mountain symbolizing the mount Merou, home of the gods, considered as the masterpiece of the Khmer architecture. This Vishnuite temple is the King's funerary temple that is why the temple is oriented to the west. Inside the temple the walls are covered by carvings and bas-reliefs depicting the Hindu mythology and the wars Suryavarman II made during his reign. As well Angkor Wat is well known for the 1800 Apsara dancers decorating the all temple. But like most say, it takes a life time to discover all the wonders of this temple.

Return to Siem Reap after watching sunset at Phnom Bakheng Hill. Dominating the flat landscape, this 10th Century mountain temple is the most popular spot in the area to watch a classic sunset over Angkor Wat and the surrounding forest or

Watching sunset at Pre Rup temple, a Hindu temple, built as the state temple of king Rajendravarman and dedicated in 961. It is a temple mountain of combined brick, laterite and sandstone construction. The temple's name is a comparatively modern one meaning "turn the body". This reflects the common belief among Cambodians that funerals were conducted at the temple, with the ashes of the body being ritually rotated in different directions as the service progressed.

Overnight at your hotel in Siem Reap.

### Day II - Banteay Srei, Grand Circuit and Chong Kneah Floating Village

**Angkor Wat sunrise** - is optional (pick up at 5am for viewing the picturesque sunrise at Angkor Wat and then return to hotel for breakfast).

**Banteay Srei** - in the morning, after breakfast at your hotel, depart for an excursion to visit Banteay Srei, made of pink sandstone and is one of the smallest temple you can visit but one of the most beautiful as well. Built in 967 AD by a guru to Jayavarman V, it showcases the most exquisite, deep and complex carvings in all Khmer architectures. As well the carvings and bas-relief are in a perfect condition although being here for more than millenary.

**Grand circuit** - explore the highlights of grend circuit the overgrown Preah Khan, Neak Pean with its artificial lakes, East Mebon and Pre Rup.

Chong Kneah floating village - continue transfer to the Phnom Krom pier for boat on Tonle Sap Lake to visit floating village of Chong Kneah at the edge of Tonle Sap Lake. Cambodia's Great Lake, the Boueng Tonle Sap (Tonle Sap Lake) is the most prominent feature on the map of Cambodia – a huge dumbbell-shaped body of water stretching across the northwest section of the country. In the wet season, the Tonle Sap Lake is one of the largest freshwater lakes in Asia, swelling to an expansive 12,000km2. During the dry, half of the year the lake shrinks to as 3000 km2, draining into the Tonle Sap River, which meanders southeast eventually merging with the Mekong River at the "Chaktomuk" confluence of river opposite Phnom Penh.

Overnight at hotel in Siem Reap.

## Day III - Rolous Group, Beng Melea and private transfer to Phnom Penh

In the morning, after breakfast at the hotel, transfer to visit Rolous group, consists of three temples of Preah Ko, Bakong and Lolei.



**Preah Ko** - six towers displaying set on a platform, all beautifully preserved carvings. Originally surrounded by walls and gopuras of which only vestiges remain. Preah Ko was one of the first major temples of the empire at the early Khmer capital of Hariharalaya. Preah Ko (Sacred Bull) derives its names from the statues of bulls at the front of the central towers.

**Bakong** - the most impressive member of the Rolous Group, sitting at the center of the first Angkorian Capital, Hariharalaya, stands 15 meters tall and is 650x850m at the outer wall.

**Lolei** - ruins of an island-temple built in the middle of a now day baray, Indrataka, the first large-scale baray constructed by a Khmer King. Lolei consists of four brick towers on a double laterite platform.

Beng Melea - continue for an excursion to visit Beng Melea. Sprawling jungle temple covering over one square kilometer, the temple is largely overrun by vegetation and very lightly touristed, giving it an adventours, 'lost temple' feel. Photographers: trees growing from the broken towers and galleries offer some of the best 'tree in temple' shots aside from Ta Prohm. Constructed in a distinctly Angkor Wat style under the same king that built Angkor Wat, Beng Melea preceded and may have served as a prototype of sorts for Angkor Wat. Though there are some lintel and doorway carving, there are no bas-relief and the carvings are comparatively sparse. When the temple was active, the walls may have been covered, painted or had frescos. In its time, Beng Melea was at the crossroads of several major highways that ran to Angkor, Koh Ker, Preah Vihear (in northern Cambodia) and northern Vietnam.

Lunch at local restaurant (at your own costs)

Private transfer to Phnom Penh. Overnight at hotel in Phnom Penh.

# Day IV - Royal Palace, Silver Pagoda, National Museum, Toul Slend S21 Genocide Museum and Chhoeung Ek Killing Field Museum

Royal Palace - Silver Pagoda - in the morning, after breakfast at the hotel, you will be met and welcomed by our English speaking guide and then transferred for the visit to Royal Palace, built in 1866 by His Majesty Preah Bat Norodom, the Royal Palace is now home to his Majesty Preah Bat Nodom Sihamony and his mother, her majesty Preah Reach Akka-Mohesey Norodom Monineat. Most of the buildings inside the palace are closed to the public, except for special occasions. Also within the palace walls is the Silver Pagoda, which draws its name from the 5,000 silver tiles that pave its floor. Inside the pagoda there are hundreds of gifts to Cambodian king, including a solid-gold Buddha encrusted with 9,584 diamonds weighing 90 kilograms. For those who love shopping, there are several markets that offer handicraft, silk, silver ware, wood carving, precious stones from the country's famous mines, as well as antique furniture and paintings by local artists.

**National Museum** - located just north of the Royal Palace, the National Museum was recently rested to its former glory as one of the finest examples of Khmer architecture. On display there are more than 5,000 artifacts and objects of 'art from the 6th to the 13th centuries. They include sandstone sculptures, royal barges, palanquins and silk, intricately woven with silver and gold threads. There are also rare religious objects in gold, silver and bronze.

**Toul Sleng S21 Genocide Museum** - when the Khmer Rouge came to power in 1975 they converted a former high school in the suburbs of Phnom Penh into a detention and torture center known as Toul Sleng, or S-21. A genocide museum was established at Tulo Sleng after 1979 and today it remains as it looked when abandoned by the Khmer Rouge. Hundreds of faces of those tortured line the walls inside the old school. Most of the 17,000 people detained at Toul Sleng were eventually transported to Choeung Ek, a mass gravesite located 15 km outside Phnom Penh. Known to locals as the Killing Field, Choeung Ek serves as a memorial to those killed under the Khmer Rouge rule. These sites can



be extremely distressing, but are essential part of understanding Cambodia's tragic past.

Lunch at local restaurant (at your own costs)

**Chhoeung Ek Killing Field Museum** - mass graves containing 8,895 bodies were discovered at Choeung Ek after the fall of the Khmer Rouge regime. Many of the dead were former political prisoners who were kept by the Khmer Rouge in their Tuol Sleng detention center and in other Cambodian detention centers.

Today, Choeung Ek is a memorial, marked by a Buddhist stupa. The stupa has acrylic glass sides and is filled with more than 5,000 human skulls. Some of the lower levels are opened during the day so that the skulls can be seen directly. Many have been shattered or smashed in.

Tourists are encouraged by the Cambodian government to visit Choeung Ek. Apart from the stupa, there are pits from which the bodies were exhumed. Human bones still litter the site.

On May 3, 2005, the Municipality of Phnom Penh announced that they had entered into a 30-year agreement with JC Royal Co. to develop the memorial at Choeung Ek. As part of the agreement, they are not to disturb the remains still present in the field.

Drop off at your location in Phnom Penh.

**Tour Ends** 



#### **Price**

- private solo tour: USD733

private tour for 2 persons: USD428 per person
private tour for 3 persons: USD323 per person
private tour for 4 persons: USD273 per person
private tour for 5 persons: USD239 per person
private tour for 6 persons: USD218 per person
private tour for 7 persons: USD203 per person
private tour for 8 persons: USD193 per person
private tour for 9 persons: USD182 per person
the more people, the drop down the price.

## **Included**

- Full tours and transfers by private luxury A/C vehicle
- English speaking guide
- All entrance fees for mentioned visit.

### **Excluded**

- Meals not mentioned
- Accommodation
- Visa fees \$30 (visa on arrival, please bring 1 of your recent passport-size photo to visit your Cambodia visa). Southeast Asian passport holders do not require a Cambodian visa
- Drinks, laundry, telephone calls, tips and expenditure of a personal nature
- Personal travel insurance
- Any services not mentioned in itinerary.

### **Contact in Siem Reap**

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